

HIERARCHICAL INTERFACE TO ATTRIBUTE BASED DATABASE

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The present invention provides a hierarchical interface to an attribute based
database. The method includes organizing a number of classifiers of data into a
hierarchical structure and organizing the data into the hierarchical data structure
according to the classifiers to which the data is linked. The hierarchical data structure
can be a file system directory tree structure. The files system directory tree structure
can be according to the NFS protocol. A request is received from a client, the request
10 formatted according to the NFS protocol. The request is translated into a database
query. A result is produced which is formatted according to the NFS protocol and the
result is sent to the client. The present invention allows data to be presented in
rearrange-able order based on a client view and classifiers, bound and unbound. The
present invention also restricts access to files in a flexible manner.

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